

CLAIMS 29.05.2006:

1. A horseshoe made of a solid homogenous metal comprising a toe section (210) on each side followed by side sections (215) and heel sections (220), **characterised in** that at least one bending articulation region is provided in each side section (215), said articulation regions (216) realized by local structural weakenings of the shoe (200) and positioned as to correspond to the transition from the toe to the quarters of a hoof, and in that the toe section (210) is rigid as compared to the two side sections (215).
2. The horseshoe according to claim 1, **further characterized** by an essentially flat approximately U-shaped body (205) and a ridge (225) formed on the outer part of the body and extending along the body (205), said ridge (225) having a first shape in the toe section (210) and at least a second shape in the side sections (215), wherein the second shape of the ridge have a smaller cross sectional area than the first shape and the transitions between the first and second shapes forms the articulation regions (216).
3. The horseshoe according to claim 1 or 2, **wherein** articulation regions (216) for the springing motion of the horseshoe are formed in close proximity to the toe section (210).
4. The horseshoe according to claim 1 or 2, **wherein** articulation regions for the springing motion of the horseshoe are located as to correspond to the transition from the toe (110) to the quarters (115) of a horse hoof (100).
5. The horseshoe according to any of claims 2 to 4, **wherein** the ridge (225) is provided with at least one cut-out (250) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the cut-outs (250) are located in the articulation regions (216).
6. The horseshoe according to any of claims 2 to 5, **wherein** the body (205) is provided with at least one through hole (255) in each of the two side sections (215) to reduce the cross sectional area of the ridge, and the through holes (255) are located in the articulation regions (216).

7. The horseshoe according to any of the above claims, **wherein** the horseshoe (200) is made of a hardened boron steel material.
8. The horseshoe according to any of the above claims, **wherein** the horseshoe (200) is made of a steel material with a hardness above 10 HRC, and even 5 more preferably above 30 HRC.